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Foreign
CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 61 NUMBER 2

BANANA EXPORTS (Page 16)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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FOR RELEASE
MONDAY
JULY 10, 1950

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Cuban rice imports during the first 4 months of 1950 totaled 137 million pounds, all from the United States, according to official data of the Cuban Ministry of Finance. These imports were about 24 percent less than 181 million pounds officially reported for the same period of 1949.

Comparatively smaller imports during 1950 period have been due mainly to the fact that the Cuban rice quota was filled early in the July-June 1949-50 quota year. Local importers, in an effort to limit the quantity subject to double duty, either curtailed purchases and imports after January 1 or urged delivery after July 1, the beginning of the new quota year.

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All licensed dealers in dates in Iraq have been asked by the Cashier of the Exchange Control Department of the National Bank of Iraq to furnish certain information in regard to their date exports. The information, to be recorded on forms submitted by the dealers in connection with their date exports, consists of the following: (1) kind of dates to be exported, (2) price per ton, and whether the price is on c.i.f. or f.o.b. basis, and (3) weight of dates to be exported, in tons and hundredweight.

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(Continued on Pago 34)

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

WORLD BANANA EXPORTS DOWN 1 PERCENT

Banana exports for 1949 from the world's principal exporting countries are estimated at 94.2 million bunches, 1 percent below the 1948 export of 95.4 million and 16 percent below the prewar average of 111.6 million.

The Western Hemisphere supplied 85 percent of the tonnage entering international trade as compared with 87 percent in 1948 and 82 percent prewar. The remainder of the 1949 trade was supplied principally by Africa.

In the Central American Area, 4 countries, namely Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama and Guatemala, supplied 49 percent of the world total export. This compared with 54 percent for the same countries during 1948 and 29 percent prewar.

Production in Costa Rica has increased steadily and in 1949 exports reached 16.0 million bunches, 6 percent more than the 15.1 million exported during 1948 but better than 3 times the amount exported during the prewar period. Increase in production was along the Panamanian border and in the Golfito area where plantings were extended during the year. Most of Costa Rica's bananas came to the United States with Canada and European countries taking small quantities. Canada took the highest average grade of fruit, Europe a slightly lower grade and the United States took an average lower grade than the other 2 areas.

Exports from Honduras, amounting to 13.3 million bunches, are a decrease of 13 percent from the 15.3 million exported during 1948. The decrease was caused by unfavorable growing conditions. Of the total 1949 export, the United States took 11.2 million and Canada, 2.1 million bunches.

Practically all exports of bananas from Panama except a small shipment to the Netherlands were destined for markets in the United States.

Guatemala had an estimated export of 7.1 million bunches, 41 percent below the 1948 export of 12.1 million and 16 percent below the prewar average of 8.4 million. Exports for 1949 were the lowest of any year since 1944 when shipments were severely curtailed by wartime shipping shortages. Blow-downs were the principal reason for the decline but port strikes early in 1949, storm damage to transportation, and less favorable market conditions also contributed to the smaller 1949 export.

The banana industry in Jamaica is recovering from the attacks of Panama and Leaf Spot diseases and wartime restrictions, with exports during 1949 amounting to 3.3 million bunches as compared with 3.0 million during the preceding season and 13.0 million prewar. More resistent varieties have been developed and during 1949, 110,000 stems of the Lacatan variety were exported. It is estimated that 500,000 stems of this variety will be exported during 1950.

BANANAS: International trade averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1945-49

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949 1/
	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches
	Exports from specified exporting countries						
NORTH AMERICA							
British Honduras	658	222	145	85	162	114	58
Costa Rica	4,569	3,732	3,406	6,831	10,099	15,062	15,995
Guatemala	8,405	5,549	8,547	9,758	14,884	12,056	7,100
Honduras	2/ 11,723	10,095	13,138	14,184	15,211	15,326	13,349
Mexico	13,103	4,449	3,502	5,039	5,641	4,527	4,302
Nicaragua	1,982	338	85	220	327	475	539
Panama, Republic of	8,173	4,484	3,602	3/ 7,266	3/ 6,480	3/ 9,055	3/ 9,261
Panama, Canal Zone	1,606	796	43	4/	4/	4/	4/
Cuba	5,358	2,305	1,162	1,952	1,901	1,251	652
Dominica	58	21	3	3	-	-	77
Dominican Republic	291	615	971	1,221	930	1,390	1,758
Grenada	78	27	2	3	7	9	8
Guadeloupe	1,810	336	462	838	1,404	2,158	2,723
Haiti	5/ 704	1,397	2,584	3,928	4,049	1,697	1,162
Jamaica	13,042	1,823	1,078	2,996	2,826	3,048	3,282
Martinique	1,336	112	6/	144	483	1,248	1,700
St. Lucia	64	18	7/	7/	1	-	-
St. Vincent	28	7	0	0	1	-	-
Trinidad and Tobago	73	7	7/	2	-	-	-
Total	73,061	36,333	38,730	54,470	64,406	67,416	61,966
ASIA							
Syria and Lebanon	8	13	11	12	13	4	2
Japan 8/	201	133	-	-	-	-	21
Formosa 9/	5,570	3,261	-	-	-	-	-
Formosa	645	600	-	173	412	-	-
Indonesia	138	122	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6,562	4,129	11	185	425	4	23
SOUTH AMERICA							
Brazil	9,366	3,507	2,823	4,664	5,653	7,180	6,963
Colombia	7,475	1,976	1,316	1,820	2,739	3,697	5,026
Ecuador	1,920	1,146	763	1,432	2,956	4,206	5,915
Paraguay	1	19	0	20	20	7/	7/
Surinam	3	0	0	7/	1	7/	-
Venezuela	125	188	186	218	193	241	225
Total	18,890	6,836	5,088	8,154	11,562	15,324	18,129

BANANAS: International trade averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1945-49

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949 1/
	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches
AFRICA							
Belgian Congo	73	24	51	78	88	100	100
Canary Islands	5,319	4,824	5,512	5,844	6,120	7,316	6,524
Egypt	12	1	6	7	7	18	20
Eritrea	983	138	-	-	22	60	342
French Cameroons	907	150	0	207	751	150	148
French Guinea	1,916	320	16	252	1,214	1,810	1,698
Ivory Coast	407	80	0	73	571	683	728
Gold Coast	56	12	1/	1	1	1	1/
Mozambique	389	872	1,086	540	663	455	500
Nigeria and Cameroons	2,337	526	1/	210	763	1,528	3,480
Sao Tome and Principe	7	7	18	-	-	-	-
Total	12,406	6,954	6,689	7,212	10,200	12,121	13,540
OCEANIA							
Fiji	248	137	140	156	233	300	350
Hawaiian Islands 10/	103	39	0	0	0	-	-
Tonga Islands	32	62	52	33	70	75	75
Western Samoa	272	190	180	205	163	174	121
Total	655	428	372	394	466	549	546
World total	111,574	54,680	50,890	70,415	87,059	95,414	94,204
	Imports into specified importing countries 11/						
NORTH AMERICA							
Canada	2,250	1,609	3,484	4,697	3,851	3,709	3,305
United States 12/	61,295	36,041	37,389	48,137	57,398	63,724	60,887
Total	63,545	37,650	40,873	52,834	61,249	67,433	64,192
EUROPE							
Belgium	914	23	4	465	1,764	1,298	1,624
Denmark	187	4	10	2	1/	1/	1/
Ireland (Eire)	254	28	0	39	169	265	233
Finland	126	0	1/	1/	1/	1	-
France	7,416	654	3	1,102	3,771	6,297	8,017
Germany	5,512	15	-	-	-	1/	628
Italy	954	138	0	1	9	35	305
Netherlands	1,273	18	0	37	76	47	177
Norway	332	7	54	184	135	0	0
Spain	2,084	3,456	2,336	1,521	5,158	5,056	4,500
Sweden	471	13	83	956	575	284	236
Switzerland	282	107	164	324	334	411	513
United Kingdom	13,186	1,707	50	4,548	4,692	6,639	6,850
Total	32,991	6,170	2,704	9,179	16,683	20,333	23,083

BANANAS: International trade averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1945-49

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949 1/
	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches	1,000 bunches
ASIA							
Iraq	15	3	7/	1	3	-	-
Palestine	0	53	110	169	259	300	300
Japan 13/	5,570	3,261	-	-	-	-	21
Korea 9/	201	133	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5,786	3,450	110	170	262	300	321
SOUTH AMERICA							
Argentina	6,862	3,550	2,108	3,169	4,540	5,488	5,878
Chile	653	677	651	849	1,129	1,031	972
Uruguay	445	489	334	549	634	873	667
Total	7,960	4,716	3,093	4,567	6,303	7,392	7,517
AFRICA							
Algeria	194	51	-	-	-	6	-
French Morocco	71	8	0	1	20	-	-
South West Africa	4	6	6	-	-	-	-
Spanish Morocco	24	20	28	-	-	-	-
Tunisia	95	30	-	-	-	-	-
Union of South Africa	198	435	553	295	325	250	250
Total	586	550	587	296	345	256	250
OCEANIA							
Australia	71	33	7/	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	524	427	368	494	466	549	550
Total	595	460	368	494	466	549	550
World total	111,463	52,996	47,735	67,540	85,308	96,263	95,913

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Crop years Aug. 1 - July 31, 1933-34 through 1936-37; Aug. 1 - June 30, 1937-38; July 1 - June 30, 1939. 3/ Includes Panama Canal Zone. 4/ Included in Republic of Panama. 5/ Year beginning October 1. 6/ Not available. 7/ Less than 500 bunches. 8/ Trade with Korea. 9/ Trade with Japan. 10/ Trade with United States. 11/Re-exports deducted. 12/ Includes shipments from Hawaii. 13/ Trade with Formosa.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. All figures have been converted to count bunches of 50 pounds. The word "stem" is used to signify a bunch as harvested and varies in weight according to country where produced and by year.

Cuba's exports in 1949 of around one-half million bunches is just half as much as were exported in 1948 and compares with 5.4 million bunches prewar. More than 20 varieties of bananas are grown in Cuba but Johnson (Gros Michel) bananas account for the largest share of production. During 1949, production of the Johnson banana was the smallest in years, being less than one-half of the annual averages in other recent years. Bunches are light in weight and output is suffering from both Panama and Sigatoka diseases.

Mexico has an estimated export of 4.3 million bunches, compared with 4.5 million for 1948 and 13.1 million prewar. Lower yields are due to effects of drought in the producing region of Tabasco and northern Chiapas. New plantings in this region have continued while in southern Chiapas plantings have merely replaced areas abandoned because of the spread of Panama disease.

Banana exports from Guadeloupe and Martinique continue to increase, with 1949 exports of 2.7 and 1.7 million bunches respectively. Insects and diseases are unimportant in this area.

Exports from the Dominican Republic, indicated to be 1.8 million bunches in 1949, show a steady increase over 1.4 million exported in 1948 and 291 thousand during the 1935-39 period. Climatic conditions were favorable and the area has been increased.

Exports from South American countries are indicated to be 18.1 million bunches, just a little less than 18.9 million exported during 1935-39, but 18 percent above the 1948 total of 15.3 million.

Brazil, the largest exporter in this area, shipped 7.0 million bunches, 3 percent below the 1948 export of 7.2 million but 26 percent below the prewar average of 9.4 million. Since 1943, production and exports have been upward and, because of domestic demand, production probably will continue to rise.

Colombia's export of 5.0 million bunches is an increase of around 1.3 million over the 1948 export. The chief difficulties faced by the banana growers in the Santa Marta banana zone were Sigatoka control, strikes and a blow-down which occurred in August and September. European markets have been reopened, indicating the outlook for Colombian bananas is good.

Exports from Ecuador are indicated to be 5.9 million bunches, compared with 4.2 for 1948 and 1.9 million prewar. Rise in production is attributed principally to renewal of the United States demand for bananas from Ecuador.

In the Eastern Hemisphere the Canary Islands lead with export of 6.5 million bunches or 11 percent below the previous year's export of 7.3 million. Most of the exportable production goes to Spain, with the United Kingdom taking around 1 million bunches. British West Africa (Nigeria and the British Cameroons) has an export of 3.5 million bunches, going chiefly to the United Kingdom.

Imports into the principal importing countries during 1949 are estimated to be 95.9 million bunches, of which the Northern American area imported 67 percent; Europe, 24 percent; South America, 8 percent and the remaining 1 percent by Africa, Asia and Oceania. The United States, with a total import of 60.9 million bunches, received 23 percent or 14.0 million bunches from Costa Rica, 12.2 million from Honduras, 9.6 million from Panama, 6.3 million from Guatemala, 4.4 million each from Mexico and Ecuador, 4.0 million from Colombia and small amounts from other countries.

The British West Indies and Central America, chiefly Honduras, Guatemala, Panama and Costa Rica, supply Canada with bananas. The United Kingdom is the largest importer in the European area; her imports since the war have now reached 6.8 million bunches, of which 3.2 million came from the British West Indies, 2.5 million from Nigeria and 1.1 million from the Canary Islands. Imports into France of 8.0 million were supplied chiefly by her possessions. Spain's supply came from the Canary Islands.

Paraguay and Brazil supply Argentina with bananas amounting to nearly 6.0 million bunches. Chile's chief source of supply is Ecuador. Uruguay imports her bananas from Brazil.

BANANAS: Imports into the United States by country of origin, averages 1935-39/1940-44, annual 1945-49

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
	1,000 stems	1,000 stems	1,000 stems	1,000 stems	1,000 stems	1,000 stems	1,000 stems
Honduras	10,710	10,205	11,737	10,247	13,773	13,796	12,250
Costa Rica	3,640	3,195	2,743	5,322	6,256	7,813	8,762
Guatemala	7,967	5,504	8,034	10,170	11,655	10,692	6,296
Panama, Republic of	1/ 6,740	3,101	1,641	3,523	3,404	5,572	6,015
Panama Canal Zone	2/	75	896	967	758	1,166	799
Mexico	14,815	6,128	5,464	8,238	7,608	5,855	5,547
Colombia	3,614	1,030	1,382	1,902	2,033	3,690	5,022
Ecuador	1,159	361	0	450	1,726	2,747	4,028
Haiti	1,193	2,500	4,284	6,574	6,939	2,735	1,959
Cuba	5,894	3,102	2,618	4,392	4,412	2,819	1,572
Dominican Republic	277	678	1,084	1,328	904	1,322	1,482
Nicaragua	2,272	404	80	287	407	664	744
Others	975	1,239	990	533	230	463	184
Total stems 3/	59,256	37,522	40,953	53,933	60,105	59,334	54,660
Adjusted to count bunches 4/	61,192	36,002	37,389	48,130	57,401	63,572	60,871

1/ Includes the Canal Zone.

2/ Included in Panama, Republic of.

3/ The word stem is used to signify a bunch as harvested and varies in weight according to country where produced and by years.

4/ Stems converted to count bunch of 50 pounds.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

TURKEY'S 1950 TOBACCO PRODUCTION FORECAST BELOW 1949

Turkey's 1950 tobacco crop is forecast at about 7 percent below the 1949 harvest, according to the American Embassy in Ankara.

The country's 1950 production of leaf tobacco is unofficially forecast at approximately 200 million pounds. This compares with the revised official estimate of the 1949 crop of 215 million pounds and the 1948 harvest totaling 163 million pounds. According to officials of the Turkish Ministry of Customs and Monopolies, the agency of the Turkish Government primarily interested in the production, sale and manufacture of tobacco, weather conditions have been good in the Aegean district but in the Black Sea and Marmara districts cold weather and excessive rains have retarded the crop. Indications are that the Aegean crop will be as large as the 1949 production of about 113 million pounds, but that the Marmara and Black Sea crops will be smaller than in 1949 when 95 million pounds were produced in these districts. In the Eastern district 1950 production is expected to about equal the 1949 outturn of approximately 7 million pounds.

BELGIAN CONGO'S TOBACCO IMPORTS INCREASE

The Belgian Congo's 1949 imports of leaf tobacco were almost treble the 1948 level, according to the American Consulate General in Leopoldville.

Imports of leaf in 1949 totaled 4,912,000 pounds, compared with 1,700,000 pounds in 1948 and 2,692,000 pounds in 1947. The Union of South Africa was the most important source of leaf in 1949, supplying 2,926,000 pounds or 60 percent of the total. Nyasaland was the second most important source of imported leaf, supplying 1,166,000 pounds or 24 percent of the total in 1949. Data giving the countries of origin of the remaining 820,000 pounds imported in 1949 are not available.

The Belgian Congo imports most of the leaf consumed there as domestic production is believed to be considerably less than 2,000,000 pounds annually. The annual production of "plantation tobacco" grown by European inhabitants is estimated at approximately 300,000 pounds. Native production, little of which enters commercial channels, is not believed to greatly exceed 1,000,000 pounds annually. Tobacco exports are insignificant.

MADAGASCAR'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION UP; EXPORTS LOWER

Madagascar's 1948-49 commercial production of leaf tobacco is placed at about 2 percent above the 1947-48 harvest, the American Consulate in Tananarive reports. The 1949-50 crop is forecast at about 5 to 10 percent above 1948-49. Exports of leaf in 1949 were 31 percent below the 1948 level.

The 1948-49 commercial production of leaf totaled 4,039,000 pounds, according to the Madagascar Agricultural Service. This compares with an earlier forecast for the 1948-49 crop of 3,527,000 pounds, with the 1947-48 harvest of 3,968,000 pounds and the 1946-47 crop of 4,409,000 pounds. Madagascar's commercial crop consists entirely of so-called Maryland tobacco, all of which is purchased by the French Tobacco Monopoly. An official estimate of the 1949-50 leaf production is not available, but the crop is unofficially forecast at from 200,000 to 400,000 pounds above the 1948-49 harvest.

Exports of leaf in 1949 totaled 4,251,000 pounds. This compares with 6,157,000 pounds in 1948, about 3,115,000 in 1947 and a prewar, 1935-39, annual average of 5,262,000 pounds. All tobacco exported from Madagascar goes to France.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

ITALIAN RICE ACREAGE MAY INCREASE

Italy's rice acreage planted in 1950 is expected to exceed the 326,000 acres of a year earlier. Field preparations were good, and the farm labor and machinery situation satisfactory. After the cold spell in early May, the weather turned favorable, so that growing conditions at the end of the month were normal. Irrigation water supplies were sufficient, and transplantings were to begin under favorable conditions.

FRENCH RICE SUPPLIES LARGER IN 1949

Rice supplies in France during 1949, though only a small percentage of prewar, were the largest in 10 years. With limited quantities available at the end of the war, the country began to produce rice, and imports also were larger in 1949.

FRANCE: Rice production and trade, average 1936-40, annual 1946-49

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production: Rough	Production: In terms of milled	Net imports	Production plus imports
	1,000 acres	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1936-40.....	1	1,400	1.4	1	1/ 1,209	1,210
1946......	2	2,650	5.3	3	10	13
1947......	4	2,125	8.5	6	25	31
1948......	10	2,200	22.0	14	76	90
1949......	19	2,553	48.5	32	94	126

1/ More than one-half used for animal feed.

Compiled from official sources.

Interest in rice cultivation in 1946 brought about an acreage increase over the 1,000 acres usually planted in France, and the area has gained every year. Approximately 19,000 acres were planted in 1949 and nearly 50 million pounds of rough rice were harvested. Plantings in 1950 are forecast at 22,000 acres.

FRANCE: Rice imports, 1948 and 1949

Type and country of destination	1948: January-June	1948: July-December	1948: Total	1949: January-June	1949: July-December	1949: Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Paddy and broken:						
Italy..............	664	0	664	2,205	23,119	25,324
Indochina..........	0	4,742	4,742	2,121	3,818	5,939
Others.............	260	88	348	119	318	437
Total........	924	4,830	5,754	4,445	27,255	31,700
Brown rice:						
Indochina..........	12,139	49,105	61,244	28,106	11,114	39,220
Mexico.............	1/	1/	1/	2	6,554	6,556
Italy..............	1/	1/	1/	2,205	12,405	14,610
Switzerland........	1/	1/	1/	437	68	505
Madagascar.........	1/	1/	1/	340	443	783
Others.............	3,730	5,007	8,737	323	183	506
Total........	15,869	54,112	69,981	31,413	30,767	62,180
Semolina:						
Indochina- TOTAL........	0	13,042	13,042	9	1,929	1,938

1/ If any, included in "others".

Bureau of Customs.

Although small in comparison with prewar trade, French rice imports in 1949 totaled 126 million pounds, including all types, according to official statistics. It is generally believed, however, that additional quantities were available as a result of rice movements into France through other than official channels. Rice rationing was terminated at the end of November 1949.

SPAIN'S WHEAT CROP PROMISING

The wheat crop now being harvested in Spain is the most promising since 1946, according to private estimates. Tentative forecasts place the crop at about 125 million bushels, compared with 110 million bushels harvested in each of the past 2 seasons. An outturn of the size indicated would, however, be considerably below normal prewar production.

Plentiful rains, which fell over most of the country during the latter half of May, improved prospects materially, relieving the very dry conditions on the high central plateau, which is the heart of the grain belt. In addition to very dry conditions in that area and in Andalusia since mid-April, unseasonably cold weather during part of April had also done some damage, according to reports.

The larger crop outturn is mainly attributed to better per-unit yields, though the area is also reported slightly larger than a year ago. On the basis of present information, however, average yields still will be somewhat below the prewar level. Increase of the unit yield of wheat is said to offer the best prospect for a desired increase in wheat production, since any large increase in area would involve the use of uneconomic marginal lands or shifts from relatively more profitable crops. Increased use of fertilizer and mechanization, together with seed selection, are feasible means of bringing about a substantial increase in output. Seed selection is steadily improving, but much progress can still be made. The use of fertilizer on the current crop was the largest since the beginning of Spain's Civil War. Cereals appear to have been favored over other crops, in the distribution of available fertilizer. The import program calls for imports of 500,000 metric tons of nitrogenous fertilizer for the coming crop year, under the terms of various bilateral trade agreements to which Spain is a party.

If present prospects for the wheat crop are realized, the 1950-51 supply of wheat would cover the country's requirements at the present low level of consumption. Actually, however, imports are expected to continue, though with less urgency than during the past season, when sizable quantities were required to maintain even that low level. It is understood that the Government wishes to decontrol food as rapidly as possible, and that about 145 million bushels of wheat would be required to offer bread freely without controls.

Wheat imports during the calendar year 1949 were reported at 10.3 million bushels compared with 12.2 million in 1948. Unofficial figures for the first 6 months of 1950 place the imports for that period at 8.5 million bushels. The 1949 imports were largely from Argentina, about 1 million bushels from the United States being the only exception. Imports during the first half of 1950, in contrast, came from Australia, Canada and France as well as from Argentina and the United States. Argentina appears to have supplied about a third of the total, with Australia and Canada together accounting for about 40 percent. France and the United States made up the remainder, about equally divided. The accession of Spain to the International Wheat Agreement fixed an annual quota of 100,000 tons beginning with the 1950-51 year. Carry-over at the beginning of the 1950-51 season is estimated at about 3.5 million bushels.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

DANISH LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, EXCEPT HORSES, RISE

The Danish livestock census of March 25, 1950 indicates that all types of farm animals, except horses, increased from a year earlier. Cattle numbers increased by 129,000 head since March 1949. Milk cow numbers, however, gained 95,000 head over the previous year, representing more than 70 percent of the increase.

Hog numbers increased from 2.2 million head in March 1949 to 3.2 million in March 1950. Chicken numbers also rose by half a million, while horses declined by half a million.

With the improvement in the feed situation in early 1948, the number of cattle has increased for the last 3 years. Hogs obviously have made the largest increase and now exceed all of the postwar years. In addition to the increase in milk cow numbers, milk production per cow increased by 10 percent from a year earlier.

DENMARK: Number of cattle, hogs, horses and poultry on March 25, 1950, with comparisons

Category	1941 1/	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
Cattle, total..	2,976	3,124	3,069	2,778	2,887	3,016
Cows, only...	1,483	1,592	1,613	1,535	1,605	1,700
Hogs...........	1,873	1,844	1,779	1,388	2,200	3,214
Horses.........	-	609	576	537	504	482
Chickens, total	13,181	10,833	12,544	13,435	18,019	18,532

1/ Livestock in rural communities only-excludes parishes and boroughs. --

Compiled from official sources.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, and the U. S. gulf-port average

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1950	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good	7-6	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	(not	quoted)
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not	quoted)
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	77.95	45.19
Karnak, F.G.F.	"	"	"	70.45	40.84
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 620.00	16.50
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	1/ 690.00	18.37
Karachi		Maund			
4F Punjab, S.G., Fine	7-5	82.28 lbs.	"	77.00	28.23
289F Sind, S.G., Fine	"	"	"	77.40	28.38
289F Punjab, S.G., Fine	"	"	"	81.80	29.99
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B	7-6	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	4300.00	40.36
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5	7-4	101.4 lbs.	Sol	395.00	25.88
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	490.00	32.10
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 4	7-6	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	215.00	35.37
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not	available)
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	235.00	38.66
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	236.00	38.83
Torreon		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	231.00	26.36
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	34.07

Quotations of foreign markets reported by cable from U. S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Nominal.

PAKISTAN COTTON ESTIMATE REVISED UPWARD

The 1949-50 cotton crop in Pakistan is now estimated unofficially at 975,000 equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross weight, according to a current report from Henry W. Spielman, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Karachi. This estimate includes an estimated 75,000 bales consumed by local mills and about 15,000 by hand spinning and other domiciliary industries. The 1948-49 crop was estimated at 832,000 bales.

The 1949-50 acreage, estimated officially at 2,807,000 acres, is 103,000 acres larger than in 1948-49. Planting of the 1950-51 crop was nearly finished early in June and the acreage is believed to be somewhat larger than in 1949-50. Growing conditions were favorable this year but grasshoppers were reported to have destroyed 1,700 acres of cotton in June.

Cotton improvement legislation has been enacted by the West Punjab Government. This province, which accounts for nearly two-thirds of Pakistan's cotton crop, has been divided into 3 cotton districts with a recommended variety for each district. The movement of seed cotton and cottonseed from one district to another is prohibited without special permission. Severe penalties are prescribed against mixing of 2 or more varieties at the gins. There has been a large amount of mixing during the past 3 years because of the great influx of new and inexperienced farmers and ginners from India after partition.

Exports of cotton during the 10 months beginning August 1, 1949, were equivalent to 661,000 bales of 500 pounds. Hong Kong (mostly for China), the Soviet Union, Japan, France, and China were the principal destinations. Exports during June and July were expected to total around 165,000 bales making approximately 825,000 bales for the 1949-50 season.

Stocks of cotton in port (Karachi) about June 1, 1950, were estimated at around 250,000 bales with an additional stock of about 40,000 bales at interior locations expected to reach port before the beginning of the new season September 1. Statements from local merchants indicate that at least 50,000 bales have been sold and are awaiting shipment. Most of the present stocks are expected to be exported to Hong Kong and continental Europe. Japan was expected to purchase about 15,000 bales for immediate shipment and between 15,000 and 35,000 additional bales for shipment in the near future.

Exports to India totaled about 9,000 bales in August and September 1949. No further exports were reported and none are expected during the remainder of the current season. The higher ceiling prices for goods made from United States cotton more than offset the slightly higher prices paid for United States cotton delivered in Bombay.

The quantity of high-quality cotton available is definitely limited and exporters are bidding above world prices for it. About 165,000 bales (200,000 Pakistan bales) of the stock on hand are low-grade cotton that must be sold at a discount.

The number of cotton spindles in place in Pakistan at the time of partition was reported at 177,000. This number had been increased to 284,817 spindles by the end of 1949. The government plans to increase this number to 1,000,000 by the end of 5 years after partition and to 1,500,000 within 10 years. The present rate of mill consumption is 75,000 bales annually but the goods produced meet only a small part of the annual requirements of the country.

FATS AND OILS

NEW COCONUT OIL FACTORY OPENED IN ZANZIBAR

A new coconut oil factory has been opened near Zanzibar, at a cost of £40,000 ($112,000) and will operate under the name of Luxmi Oil Industries, Limited.

Work on this project was begun in August 1948, but it was not until May of this year that the factory was completed and able to start production.

The buildings and courtyards occupy about 47,000 square feet and are all up-to-date construction and equipped with modern machinery.

When working at full capacity, the factory is reported to be capable of producing 5,500 short tons of crude coconut oil annually. The refining plant is capable of producing 3 tons of refined oil daily which could be used for the production of margarine and vegetable ghee.

Some of the residue will be used to make the blue mottled soap well known in East Africa.

SWITZERLAND REQUESTS CONSUMERS TO MAINTAIN STOCKS OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS

The Government of Switzerland recently requested consumers to maintain certain minimum stocks of edible fats and oils and other foodstuffs, according to the American Embassy, Bern. Compliance with the decree by all families of a population of 4.5 million will result in a movement into consumer hands of about 4,400 short tons of edible oil. The establishment of family reserves will come from present stocks and will be bought at present retail prices. Wholesalers probably regard this measure with approval as it offers an opportunity to reduce high cost stocks before an expected price decline.

On May 1, 1949, the legislature enacted stockpiling laws which provide for the maintenance of stocks adequate for 4 months' supply of edible fats and oils, that is, one-third of the annual imports of any given product.

The year 1949 was characterized by fluctuating prices, steadying in the latter part of the year, uncertain markets, and a resumption of "normal" prewar consumption patterns. The OLFET (Association for the Importation of Edible Oils and Fats) was abolished October 1, 1949. A new customs surcharge was added on oilseeds, walnut kernels, and oil pulp (except copra and peanuts), raising the former surcharge from 1 Swiss franc per hundred kilograms to 2 Swiss francs (.1 to .2 cent per pound). (See Foreign Crops and Markets, October 17, 1949).

Switzerland, like most countries, suffered severe shortages of fats and oils during the war. The livestock industry furnishes most of its domestic requirements for edible animal fats, but Switzerland depends heavily upon imports for vegetable oils and oilseeds of which there is practically no domestic production. Rapeseed production was begun during the war but has not been very successful. Totalproduction of rapeseed and poppy seed varies from 6,000 to 22,000 tons a year. At present the chemical and pharmaceutical industry absorbs most of this product. The production of butter has been somewhat cut back to allow for larger foreign-exchange-earning exports of cheese. The deficit in butter is made up by imports from Sweden and Denmark.

Annual consumption of edible oils and fats including butter and margarine is unofficially estimated to have been around 92,600 tons in 1949 against about 87,000 tons in 1948. Reliable estimates of consumption of non-edible industrial oils are not available. In view of a widely held belief that a reduction may be expected in prices, few, if any, manufacturers are maintaining more than absolute minimum stocks. Importers of non-edible oil are not required by Federal decree to maintain "iron" reserve stocks equal to one-third of their imports. Thus it is believed that import-export statistics, of which the export part is negligible, represent consumption fairly accurately. Estimated annual requirements of industrial oils for paint, chemical oils, and soap making are: Linseed oil, 8,000 tons; castor oil, crude, 700; cedarwood oil, 7,000; and coconut, palm, and denatured olive oils, 16,500.

Switzerland's imports of both edible and industrial oils, excluding butter, lard, and marine oils, declined to 22,000 tons in 1949 from 35,000 tons in 1948. Part of the 1948 imports were used to restore stocks. Imports of raw materials, such as copra and peanuts, however, increased sharply from 66,800 in 1948 to 83,400 in 1949, thus indicating a shift toward extraction within the country.

Although Switzerland produces considerable lard it is more expensive than imported lard. Imports in 1949 amounted to 579 tons, most of which came from the United States. The relatively small volume of marine oil consumed comes principally from Norway. Swiss exports are in general re-exports and are relatively unimportant.

COSTA RICA STRIVES FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN OILSEED PRODUCTION

Efforts begun during the war years to make Costa Rica self-sufficient in vegetable oilseeds continued in 1949, according to the American Embassy, San Jose. The increase of approximately 1,200 short tons in 1949 production over the average of the 3 previous years may be attributed principally to those efforts, while the scarcity of foreign exchange and its strict control by the Government may have been the motivating force.

Total oilseed production the past year is estimated at 2,590 tons compared with 1,800 tons in 1948. Only 4 species of oilseeds were included in the 1949 output, namely, sesame, coconuts, peanuts, and cottonseed. Soybeans and sunflower seed dropped in production in 1949 in favor of sesame and peanuts, indicating the preference of the average grower for the latter. Any considerable increase in domestic production other than from African oil palms, may be expected to come from sesame and peanuts.

Vegetable oil production in 1949 from indigenous and imported oilseeds totaled 1,800 tons compared with 1,170 in 1948 and the 3-year (1946-48) average of 1,360. Approximately 90 percent of the total is produced by one large manufacturer.

Apparent disappearance of vegetable oils in 1949, exclusive of any stocks on hand at beginning and end of year, was 2,980 tons against 1,280 the previous year.

Imports of oilseeds in 1949 (based on data for 8 months only) are estimated at about 2,090 tons compared with less than 1,000 in 1948 and almost 3,600 in 1947. The low imports of 1948 were due to civil strife and eventual armed conflict which resulted in a change of government. Edible oil imports, including crude coconut and cottonseed oils probably used in the manufacture of soap, are estimated at 390 tons compared with only slightly over 100 in 1948 and 300 in 1947. The increase in 1949 over the previous 3-year average is accounted for by the coconut and cottonseed oil imports. There were no reported exports of oilseeds, vegetable oils or soap in 1949.

The longtime outlook for vegetable oilseeds and their manufactured products is for self-sufficiency. There has been increased oilseed production, but eventually the African oil palm will account primarily for Costa Rica's independence in oilseed supply. There are tens of thousands of acres of land in the lowlands of both the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts which have proved highly adapted to this crop. The centers of population, however, are in the highlands.

A large fruit company has been and is planting hundreds of acres of these palms on its properties near Quepos. The first several hundred acres will come into bearing this year. Shortly, the volume will be sufficient to produce the 3,300 tons of oil which Costa Rica probably will need for a domestic supply slightly above present consumption. Some 3,000 acres at 1.1 tons of oil per acre will meet that need.

HONG KONG TUNG OIL EXPORTS GAIN IN APRIL

Hong Kong tung oil exports of 3,200 short tons in April were more than double those of April 1949 and the largest in the current year. Shipments during January-April totaled 6,900 tons against 9,560 during the same months of last year. The United States continues to be the principal market, followed by the United Kingdom and Germany.

Tung oil supplies in China of around 30,000 tons are reported to be available in the producing areas of Szechuen, Hupeh, and Hunan Provinces, but shipments are being delayed by transportation difficultire and by lack of drums required for cargoes destined to the United States.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

FRENCH WEST AFRICA'S COFFEE PRODUCTION INCREASING

French West Africa's 1949-50 coffee production is officially estimated at 750,000 bags for export, according to the American Consulate General in Dakar. However, in addition, an unrecorded amount of coffee estimated unofficially at 125,000 bags is normally harvested from small scattered farms. Therefore, French West Africa's total coffee harvest in 1949-50 is estimated at about 875,000 bags. Since domestic consumption amounts to approximately 35,000 bags annually, the 1949-50 harvest should provide around 840,000 bags of coffee for export. Although this is substantially lower than the 1948-49 exportable production of about 960,000 bags, it is slightly higher than the postwar (1945-46 to 1948-49) annual average of around 825,000 bags and 4 times as high as the prewar (1935-36 to 1939-40) annual average of about 210,000 bags.

Exports of coffee from French West Africa reached a record high of 1,060,000 bags in 1949. This compares with exports of 940,000 bags in 1948, 735,000 in 1947, and 310,000 bags in 1939.

Exports of French West African coffee were restricted to Metropolitan France and the French colonies prior to February 15, 1950. Since that date, coffee exports have been free from government control, and French West African planters have been searching for markets. During the first quarter of 1950, about 85,000 bags of French West African coffee were sold for shipment to the United States.

The total area devoted to coffee production in French West Africa covers approximately 425,000 acres, of which 50,000 acres are in plantations owned by Europeans and the remainder is owned by natives. More than 90 percent of the coffee is produced in the Ivory Coast, and the balance is grown in Dahomey and French Guinea. Though many varieties of coffee are grown in French West Africa, Robusta accounts for about

80 percent of total coffee shipments. Arabica, Kouilou, and Assikasso are the other principal varieties.

Many measures are being undertaken to improve coffee cultivation in French West Africa. Agronomic research conducted by the experimental station at Bingerville in the Ivory Coast is expected to improve maintenance, trimming, and fertilization. Experiments at this station with about 70 varieties of coffee are designed to improve yield and quality. Plans are being made to group small coffee plantations into cooperatives under a common director. Labor policy is to be changed to payment on a production rather than a time basis. Short-term loans will be granted for the purchase of fertilizer, supplies, and mechanical equipment.

BELGIAN CONGO'S COFFEE PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS HIGHER

In 1949, the Belgian Congo's coffee production increased 7 percent and coffee exports were 4 percent greater in volume and 13 percent higher in f.o.b. value than in 1948, according to the American Consulate General in Leopoldville. Exportable coffee production increased from 500,000 bags in 1948 to 535,000 in 1949, while coffee exports increased from 500,000 bags valued at 11.5 million dollars in 1948 to 520,000 bags valued at 13.0 million dollars in 1949. In the prewar period (1935-39), the Belgian Congo's annual average production of coffee for export amounted to only 300,000 bags.

The Belgian Congo (including the trust territory of Ruanda-Urundi) produced a total of 535,000 bags of coffee for export in 1949 on about 170,000 acres containing around 75 million bearing trees. This total consisted of about 335,000 bags of Robusta produced on about 100,000 acres containing around 40 million bearing trees and 200,000 bags of Arabica produced on about 70,000 acres containing around 35 million bearing trees. Over three-fourths of the Arabica is produced in Ruanda-Urundi, where around 500,000 individual growers cultivate an average of about 60 coffee trees each. Nearly all the balance of the Arabica and most of the Robusta are produced on large European plantations in the Belgian Congo.

In 1949, the Belgian Congo exported about 520,000 bags of coffee, composed of 288,000 bags of Robusta and 232,000 bags of Arabica. Belgium was the leading destination, followed by the United States, the United Kingdom, the Union of South Africa, and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. Shipments to Belgium totaled 176,000 bags, consisting of 150,000 bags of Robusta and 26,000 bags of Arabica. The United States was the principal market for Arabica. Shipments from Belgian Congo to the United States amounted to 142,000 bags of Arabica and only about 1,000 bags of Robusta. About 84,000 bags of Robusta and 14,000 bags of Arabica went to the United Kingdom. Shipments of 27,000 bags of Arabica and 8,000 bags of Robusta were made to the Union of South Africa, and 29,000 bags of Robusta were exported to the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

LATE NEWS

(Continued from Page 15)

Egypt's 1950-51 cotton acreage is estimated unofficially at 2,100,000 acres compared with an official estimate of 1,756,000 acres last year. The 1950-51 estimate is divided as follows, with 1949-50 figures in parentheses: Karnak 804,000 acres (787,000); Menoufi 62,000 (151,000); Giza 23 none (38,000); Giza 30 342,000 (166,000); Zagora 150,000 (23,000); Ashmouni 741,000 (590,000); other 1,000 (1,000).

The growing plants are reported to be in excellent condition, at least a week ahead of last year in maturity and suffering less leaf-worm attack. A production estimate for 1950-51 based on the above acreage figures and some increase over last year's average yield of 491 pounds per acre may be calculated at approximately 2,200,000 bales of 500 pounds.

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A preliminary unofficial estimate places the 1950 cotton crop in Mexico at 1,080,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) or about 10 percent above last year's estimate of 985,000 bales. The 1950 acreage estimates of 1,804,000 acres is 25 percent above last year's 1,446,000 acres. Growing conditions were less favorable this year.